

# Update: Pest Management Alliance Grant Program

Bob Elliott

California Department of Pesticide Regulation  
Pest Management and Licensing Branch

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# Overview

Brief History

CAP Report

New Alliance

New PMA Grants

# Brief Alliance History

Update: Pest  
Management  
Alliance Grant  
Program

Bob Elliott

Brief History

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New PMA  
Grants

- Created in 1998
- Funding up to \$100,000 per year over five years
- Matching funds required
- Over 50 projects funded statewide
- Established a dialogue with commodity groups
- Teams to solve critical problems



# Evaluation

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Center for Agricultural Partnerships (CAP) evaluated the Alliance program in 2002. CAP recognized that the program:

- Brought together a cross-section of industry focused on pest management,
- Generated new information on pest management alternatives,
- Leveraged funding to accomplish more on a wider scale

CAP also recommended improvements. . .



# Determine Primary Focus

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Support collaborative efforts to increase implementation and adoption of IPM practices that reduce risks to human health and the environment.



# Restructure the PMA Program

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Use a two-step process:

- Three-page concept
- Work plan development

Using a grant solicitation instead of a Request For Proposals allows for flexibility.



# Improve Administration

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- Separate grant management from admin support
- Staff training in project management
- Systematize and document procedures



# Improve Coordination

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- Ensure that staff are familiar with all projects
  - Share information among grant managers
- Other DPR branches participate in concept review
- Allows for better interaction between DPR staff and the projects





# Improve Ability to Measure Results

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- Establish baselines for measuring outcomes
- Document and assess not only qualitative but also quantitative and physical changes
- Measure changes related to project
- All are now required in the solicitation



# The New Alliance Solicitation

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A Pest Management Alliance is a collaborative team... to implement IPM practices...

- IPM in Urban/Agricultural Environments
- Priorities
  - pesticides in water or air
  - VOC emission reduction
- Projects must focus on increasing implementation of IPM programs with the goal of widespread adoption



# New Alliance Grants

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2009/2010

- Maintenance Gardeners
- Urban Housing
- Nursery IPM



# Maintenance Gardeners

## *"IPM Continuing Education for Maintenance Gardeners (MGs) who use Pesticides"*

- MG Pilot Project
  - Training and licensing
- Deliver IPM training
  - Peer trainers at three seasonal workshops
  - Expanded audience, MGs and retail store employees
  - Curriculum and training in IPM meets DPR accredited CE
- Safer work environment and the ability to market their IPM services



MG Pest Management Study Guide

# Urban Housing

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## *"Healthy Homes Alliance"*

- Based on previous work
  - Addresses overuse and misuse of pesticides in low-income private housing
- Team training
- Team objectives
  - Contract with multi-unit housing
  - Emphasize pest prevention
  - Cooperative effort
  - Shared responsibility for pest prevention, sanitation and building maintenance



Training tenant organizers

# Nursery IPM

## *"Demonstration and Implementation of IPM in the Production of Bedding and Container Color Plants"*

- Three-year project, 30% reduction in pesticide use
- Collaborative, experienced Alliance team
- Changes to cropping system
  - Water management, limited movement of plant material, daily greenhouse pest monitoring



"Scouting" in a bedding plant greenhouse

# Questions?

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